

10/532788  
JC12 R1 PCT/PTC 25 APR 2005  
PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Hiroaki SANO et al.

Application No.: New U.S. National Stage of  
PCT/JP2003/011860  
Filed: April 25, 2005

Docket No.: 123618

For: TUBE CONNECTING APPARATUS

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

- 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (a) within three months of the U.S. filing date of this non-CPA application, OR (b) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in the present application. No certification or fee is required.
- 2. Relevance of the non-English language reference 4 is discussed in the present specification.
- 3. The references 1-7 were cited in a counterpart foreign application. An English language version of the foreign search report is attached for the Examiner's information.
- 4. English language Abstracts of the non-English language references 1, 4, 5 and 7 are attached hereto.

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5. A computer-generated English language translation of the following Japanese Patent Publication has been obtained from the website of the Japanese Patent Office ([http://www.jpo.go.jp]), and is attached, but has not been reviewed for accuracy. See References 1, 4, 5 and 7.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Date: April 25, 2005

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Form PTO-1449 (REV. 8-83)		US Dept. of Commerce PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY DOCKET NO. 123618		APPLICATION NO. New U.S. National Stage of PCT/JP2003/011860	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  (Use several sheets if necessary)				APPLICANTS Hiroaki SANO et al.			
				FILING DATE April 25, 2005			
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME		CLASS	SUB CLASS
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY		CLASS	SUB CLASS
	1	JP A 6-91010 w/abstr. + trans.	04/05/1994	Japan			
	2	EP 0 778 123 A2	06/11/1997	Europe			
	3	EP 0 101 315 A2	02/22/1984	Europe			
	4	JP A 6-78971 w/abstr. + trans.	03/22/1994	Japan			
	5	JP A 11-178889 w/abstr. + trans.	07/06/1999	Japan			
	6	EP 0 105 587 A1	04/18/1984	Europe			
	7	JP A 6-91009 w/abstr. + trans.	04/05/1994	Japan			
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)							
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED			
Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.							

Date: April 25, 2005